

85/03 01
Gen Meet: Minutes

MARCH / APRIL

BARC NEWS

Minutes of General Meeting held on 29th March 1985.

The meeting was opened by President Geoff at 8.00pm who welcomed members and visitors and congratulated John PUA on a new call VK3 CFH. Correspondence in and out was read and received.

Business Arising from Correspondence.

A grant of \$250 was received from W.I.A. Western Zone towards cost of portable 2m repeater.

A donation of \$25 was received from the Ballarat Light Car Club in recognition of assistance given at Begonia Car Rally.

Treasurers Report. General a/c \$321.95. V.S & L. \$1106.08.

Q.S.L. Manager Cliff received 150 cards and sent out 32.

Awards Manager Maurie sent out 3 DX Widows, 3 Goldrush & 2 Western D.

~~Club Net. It would be appreciated if more members could take part~~
if only for an hour or so. What about it chaps?

Publicity Officer George DOK reported a successful coverage of the Begonia Car Rally with 5 stations taking part.

Ladies Auxilliary The progressive dinner was a great success and it is hoped that another one will be arranged in the near future.

General Business. Dick VU spoke on his investigations into making the Club an incorporated body.

A motion was then passed that the Incorporation be proceeded with and Dick VU be authorised to put the matter in hand.

It was also moved that a copy of the excellent vidio tape of the 1984-85 Hamvention be purchased. This motion was carried.

Charlie BRZ gave details of use of the VK 75A callsign which a group of members would be activating on the weekend of 30th & 31st of March.

Neville PNP suggested that the Club should have a weekend in the Grampions National Park to promote interest in the W.I.A. National Parks Award. Members showed interest and more details will be published at a later date.

Ian AXH reported that the Amateur Operator's Handbook was no longer available from regional offices of the D.O.C. and must now be obtained from the Government Printing Office. It was decided to write to local M.H.R. to try and get this matter rectified.

It was resolved that the Club would hold another Hamvention on the weekend of 2nd & 3rd of November. A Convener and committee members are needed to organise this. If you can help please let Pres. Geoff know, remember; -Many hands make light work.

An Apology; -I missed the apologies so here they are-DWG, NIN, NIZ, SE YMW, BNC.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm and after coffee everyone settled down to view their efforts at the Hamvention on telly.

73s Jim CFB.

85/06 02

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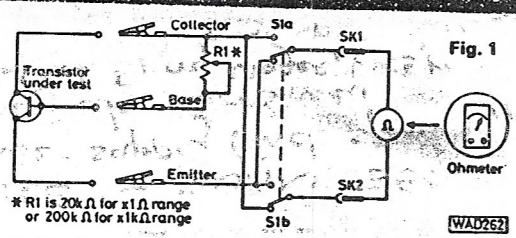
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Simple DC Transistor Tester-G4YNM

The author spends a large amount of time constructing home-brew equipment and required a transistor tester for npn and pnp types. Having considered the costs of commercially available units for this purpose it was decided to build a simple d.c. tester for the minimum outlay possible.

This aim was achieved by utilising the resistance range on the author's analogue multimeter, which serves two functions: the first is to supply power to the tester, negating the need for a separate battery. The second function is that the resistance reading on the multimeter corresponds to the condition of the transistor and so there is no requirement for a meter to be purchased, reducing cost to the minimum.

The simple circuit diagram is shown in Fig. 1, the multimeter connects up to the tester via small studs which hold the leads firmly. It should be noted that some multi-



meters have reversed polarity when on resistance range and that the terminal marked positive becomes negative and vice versa. The only switch in the tester (S1) changes the polarity over so that both types of transistor can be checked without having to disconnect the multimeter, it also provides a reverse bias check on the transistor at a flick of this switch. The variable resistor, R1, provides biasing for the base connection and the d.c. gain of a transistor can be estimated from the deflection of the meter in a rough and ready manner. The test leads to the transistor under test are terminated with miniature crocodile clips so that all types of transistor cases can be accommodated, with the other ends of these leads connecting to a small piece of stripboard inside a plastics case used to house the project.

With this very modest unit a surprising number of tests can be carried out. For example by connecting up only the collector and emitter leads, the leakage can be checked and by flicking S1 with still only these two leads connected a reverse bias check is also completed. The d.c. gain can be checked by connecting up the base as well, and the deflection is proportional to the gain. Incidentally if no reading is obtained with the foregoing test the device is open circuit! By a number of different combinations of these tests it is possible to fully test a device for open or short circuits and to identify the terminals of a working unknown type of transistor. (It must be noted that this tester is not suitable for f.e.t.'s which appear to be short circuit across the source/drain terminals.)

Whilst this tester cannot do some of the more comprehensive checks that professional testers will it is nonetheless a very useful item to have in the shack.